

## IN THE CLAIMS

### Complete listing of the claims:

1. (Currently amended) A directory searching method of searching a plurality of directory structures in a storage medium for a prescribed directory structure, wherein the plurality of directory structures constitutes a hierarchical structure and the prescribed directory structure includes at least two directories of a directory having a first name and a directory having a second name, the directory searching method comprising:

inputting the first name and the second name with an inputting device;

searching the plurality of directory structures based on the first name and the second name so as to extract all the prescribed directory structure comprising the directory having the first name and the directory having the second name in the storage medium; and

displaying at least a part of the prescribed directory structure extracted in the searching step,

wherein the directory having the second name is in the same hierarchy level as the hierarchy level of the directory having the first name, and

wherein an operator or user can input a name that does not exist in the storage medium as the first name and the second name in the inputting step.

2-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously presented) The directory searching method of claim 1, further comprising:

selecting a part of the prescribed directory structure extracted in the searching step.

6. (Previously presented) The directory searching method of claim 1, wherein the at least two directories store a set data containing at least one of image data, sound data and sound image data.

7. (Currently amended) A directory searching apparatus for searching a plurality of directory structures in a storage medium for a prescribed directory, wherein the plurality of directory structures constitutes a hierarchical structure and the prescribed directory structure includes at least two directories of a directory having a first name and a directory having a second name, the directory searching apparatus comprising:

an inputting device to input the first name and the second name;

a searching device for searching the plurality of directory structures based on the first name and the second name so as to extract the prescribed directory structure comprising the directory having the first name and the directory having the second name in the storage medium; and

displaying device to display at least a part of the prescribed directory structure extracted by the searching device;

wherein the directory having the second name is in the same hierarchy level as the hierarchy level of the directory having the first name, and

wherein an operator or user can input a name that does not exist in the storage medium as the first name and the second name in the inputting step.

8-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously presented) The directory searching apparatus of claim 7, further comprising: a range specification device to specify a search range.

11. (Original) The directory searching device apparatus of claim 10, wherein the search range is the top and bottom level in the directory structure.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously presented)                      The directory searching apparatus of claim 7, further comprising a selecting device to select a part of the prescribed directory structure extracted by the searching device.

14. (Previously presented)                      The directory searching apparatus of claim 7, wherein the at least two directories store a set data containing at least one of image data, sound data and sound image data.

15. (Original)                                      A directory searching program comprising step of controlling a computer to function as a directory searching method of claim 1.

16. (Original)                                      A directory searching program comprising a controlling section to control a computer to function as a directory searching apparatus of claim 7.

17. (Original)                                      A storage medium comprising data corresponding to the directory searching program of claim 15.

18. (Original)                                      A storage medium comprising data corresponding to the directory searching program of claim 16.

19. (Currently amended)                      A directory searching method of searching a plurality of directory structures in a storage medium for a prescribed directory structure, wherein the plurality of directory structures constitutes a hierarchical structure and the prescribed directory structure includes at least two directories of a directory having a first name and a directory having a second name, the directory searching method comprising:

inputting the first name and the second name with a inputting device;

searching the plurality of directory structures based on the first name and the second name so as to extract all the prescribed directory structure comprising the directory having the first name and the directory having the second name in the storage medium; and

displaying at least a part of the prescribed directory structure extracted in the searching step;

wherein the directory having the second name is in the hierarchy level below the hierarchy level of the directory having the first name, and

wherein an operator or user can input a name that does not exist in the storage medium as the first name and the second name in the inputting step.

20. (Previously presented)                      The directory searching method of claim 1, wherein the inputting device is a keyboard.

21. (Previously presented)                      The directory searching apparatus of claim 7, wherein the inputting device is a keyboard.

22. (Previously presented)                      The directory searching method of claim 19, wherein the inputting device is a keyboard.

23. (Previously presented)                      The directory searching method of claim 1, wherein the inputting device is a character input device.